

An Earful



September 7, 2006

Griffin



Junior Latera Jenkins unlocks her car in the newly finished parking deck. The completion of the parking deck has opened up 444 parking spots for commuter students.

Parking Crisis Easing

By ZACH BOWMAN Entertainment Editor

Last year, senior James Foster never drove vehicle, despite it being parked on

his vehicle, despite it being parked on campus.

"Last year was the worst," Foster said. "I basically brought my car to school and never used it because if I left I wouldn't have a parking space when I came back."

This year Foster and the masses like him may get a parking reprieve. The University contracted Ohio-based Donley Inc., to construct a multi-level parking deek for commuter students, adding another 444 total parking spaces to the campus capacity.

The deek allowed the old commuter lots, including the lots behind Jefferson Hall and on Thornton Street, to be converted into

parking for residential sophomores and perclassmen. The solution comes with a price, however.

The solution comes with a price, however. The cost of parking passes increased from \$150 in 2005 to \$200 in 2006. For most students, the price is acceptable in relation to other institutions.

"I've got a friend who goes to [George Washington University]," said junior Steve Bruen. "I think he pays \$800. It's steep, but compared other universities our price is relatively inexpensive I guess."

Bruen was not far off in his guess. George Washington University, situated a few blocks from the White House, pays \$720 a year for a parking pass. Virginia Commonwealth University, located in Richmond, pays anywhere from \$115 to \$275 a semester depending on where the student wishes to

park and whether he is a commuter student or not. Students at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, pay \$172 annually. Other Mary Washington students, like senior Kristen Matthews, can remember when

semor Kristen Matthews, can remember when parking was free on campus. For students like her, paying the \$200 a year fee is a little more difficult to swallow.
"My brother went here," Matthews said. "He didn't have to pay [the fee]. I understand why they're doing it, but since he didn't have to, I don't really want to. It's a little high for me."

The price increase marks the third in as many years, but according to campus police Chief James Snipes, it will be the last for a

See PARKING, page 2

Tower Slowly Rising

By ELIZABETH NOWROUZ News Editor

As the University of Mary Washington's centennial year approaches, renovations and new construction are occurring all over campus, sometimes causing disruptions.

The latest 'project, the bell tower, is a popular topic across campus, usually inciting either anticipation or frustration.

On move-in day, many new and returning students were confused and irritated to find makeshift roads and barriers up all along the south side of campus.

makeshift roads and barriers up all along the south side of campus.

The purpose was to divert traffic from Double Drive, which is closed for construction of the bell tower.

The actual name for the bell tower is the Carmen Culpeper Chappell '59 Centennial Campanile. Funded by a private donation from the family of '59 alumna Carmen Culpeper Chappell, the Campanile (which means freestanding bell tower) will stand 88 feet high and model the Georgian Revival architectural style of the other campus buildings.

The base will be 21 square feet and there will also be a fountain dedicated to the class of 1959.

But the Campanile's construction is still in its beginning stages, and takes up a large amount of space and closing Double Drive, a heavy traffic area for both motorists and pedestrians on campus. Traffic has been rerouted through the Marshall parking lot and up the lift is a construction.

routed through the Marshall parking lot and up the hill via several temporary roads, resulting in the closing of the hill to parking.

"The hope is to have everything, including parking and road access, back to normal as soon as possible," said Jeff Rountree, vice president of University development.

"I'm not sure how much I like the idea," sophomore Alexis McLane said. "But it takes the said of the processing to the processing the proc

a lot of space and it's going to be

The bell tower is just one of many

See BELL, page 2

Minority Enrollment Increases Nominally

By KATIE MOLINARO Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington, which three years ago had a black freshman class of 12, managed to get that number up to 27 this year, still less than 3 percent of the 925 incoming first-year students. School officials say that the total freshman minority enrollment is just over 11 percent.

According to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, UMW's overall minority enrollment remains one of the lowest in the state—fifth from the bottom of four year public colleges and universities.

The lack of diversity is not lost on UMW

Adina Young, a black senior at Virginia Tech, transferred from UMW after her sophomore year because she was one of 12 blacks in her class of 888 students.

888 students.

Although Young said she disliked leaving her friends and the UMW faculty, the lack of diversity was too much of an issue for her to happily remain at the University.

"I was so active still with theirs more students."

diversity committee trying to bring more students on campus, but I just couldn't take it," Young said.

on campus, but I just couldn't take It, Touling sand,
"There was too much talk and not a lot of action."
Black students remain the minority of the
minority students at the University, but there are
only slightly more Asian and Hispanic students.
There are 47 Asian students in the class of 2010,

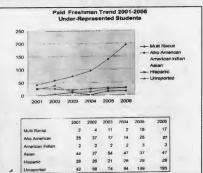
an increase of 13 from an increase of 13 from last year. Hispanic enrollment numbers, however, remain the same with 29 Hispanic students in this year's freshman

Junior Nelly Robles, a Junior Nelly Robles, a Hispanic student, has mixed feelings about the low numbers of Hispanic students. When her class began at UMW in 2004, there were 26 Hispanic students of the 882 freshmen.

students of the 882 freshmen.
"I remember last fall when I ordered pizza, the delivery man was Latino and was shocked to see

told me I was the first Latina student he has seen on campus. It is really sad to walk down campus walk and see a handful of other Latino students, but at the same time I am proud to be a part of the academic community."

The Princeton Review's "The Best 361 Colleges" ranked the University of Mary Washington No. 6 on its "Most Homogeneous Population" list, compared to last year's ranking of No. 3. The year before last, the University was



me retrieve the pizza.,"
Robles said. "He literally
told me I was the first Latina

Official statistics provided by the Office of Admissions.
told me I was the first Latina

ranked sixteenth.

The ranking is based on surveys completed by

The ranking is based on surveys completed by students.

Rita Thompson, assistant dean and of admissions and head of minority recruitment, doesn't let the ranking bother her.

"We're getting better step by step, not a big jump," Thompson said. "If we stay with the plan, if we do what we do, Princeton will have to change their print. Just you wait."

One part of Thompson's plan is a program to recruit more Hispanic students, especially those who will be the first ones in their families to attend college.

"I think we're not reaching them because of

"I timik we're not reaching them occause of the language barrier," Thompson said.

Thompson plans on using a translator when she meets with Hispanic communities, a technique she used in Korean-American communities a few years ago when the number of Asian students at the University decreased.

Asian students at the University decreased.
"We continue to produce and introduce ways to get underrepresented students to campus," Thompson said.
University President William Frawley also hopes that his administration will bring more diversity to the University, including students who represent different countries and economic levels in addition to ethnicity.
"We must recognize that UJWW is diverse as it is, and we must celebrate and promote what we have already accomplished," Frawley said in an e-mail interview.

mail interview.

Although the new administration is still developing a plan for recruiting and retaining all students, Frawley discussed some of his goals.

"I believe we need to work on such things as international and domestic exchanges and TRIO programs to ensure that our student body, faculty, and staff reflect the present and future demographics of the region, state, country and

> See MINORITY, page 8

Day Forecast



High: 82 Low: 63



FRIDAY Partly Cloudy

SATURDAY Partly Cloudy

High: 82



Partly Cloudy High: 87



High: 75

Verbatim ...

"We definitely want more people to come out to the games, because the bottom line is that we're going to be a lot of fun to watch this year.

-Tommy Park, page 12



Police Beat

By STEPHANIE TAIT



April 28—At 1:25 p.m., a bookstore employee reported to police that the book "Interpreter of Maladies," which a student sold back to the bookstore, was actually a Simpson library book. Police contacted the student who sold the book back and found the mitable to be writtened. The student the mistake to be unintentional. The student refunded the bookstore and returned the book to the library.

-At 3:59 a.m., residence life staff reported to police that two roommates were in a physical fight in Westmoreland Hall in a physical ingui in westmoretain rhail where one roommate assaulted and it the other. Angela Argueta, a 20-year-old female resident of Westmoreland Hall, was transported to Mary Washington Hospital for treatment for bite marks and was arrested for assault and battery. Her roommate, 19-year-old, Maliese Kelly, was arrested. Melissa Kelly, was arrested malicious wounding

May 9—At 12:27 a.m. residence life staff reported to police that there was a fight in progress in Willard Hall between a 22-yearold female resident of Willard Hall and her 23-year-old boyfriend. According to police, the fight was over a breakup and there was no physical violence involved.

May 13—At 12:20 p.m., police received a report that a 79-year-old female fell on the front steps of Trinkle Hall and chipped her front tooth. Police found no defects with the steps and the Fredericksburg Rescue Squad treated the female.

May 14—At 1:20 p.m. residence life staff reported to police that they discovered a 20-year-old male resident of Randolph Hall in year-old male resident of Randolph Hall in possession of two street signs. Police investigation revealed that the signs were from a town in Connecticut and the incident was therefore out of police jurisdiction. Police did not file charges.

June 2-Police received a report that, June 2—Police received a report that, between May 1 and June 2, someone stole the cash box containing \$110 from the Cheap Seats office in the Office of Student Activities. There are no suspects or witnesses and the case is under

June 23—Facilities services reported to police that, between June 21 and 23, someone stole 15 plants, valued at \$75, from the flowerbed in front of Seacobeck Hall. There are no suspects or witnesses and the case is under investigation.

June 30—It was reported to police that someone stole an iMac computer and an LCD projector, valued at \$4,984, from Pollard Hall. There are no suspects or and the case is investigation.

July 11—At 9:23 a.m., Simpson Library staff reported to police that on the previous day, a woman approached the desk and asked if she could make 120 copies of the asked if she could make 120 copies of the papers she brought. The Simpson Library staff informed her that she could not make that many copies in the library. According to police, the woman then urinated on the floor of the library before leaving.

July 31—Facilities services reported to police that they had found evidence that someone had been living in the basement of Jefferson Hall. According to police, facilities services found clothing and trash and two of the window screens were missing and the locks disabled. Facilities services fixed the locks disabled. Facilities services fixed the locks and replaced the screens. fixed the locks and replaced the screens

Aug. 21—At 2:30 a.m., police received a report that a 19-year-old female resident of the UMW Apartments was sexually assaulted. Police were able to identify the suspect. The case was referred to the city attorney

Aug. 23—At 3:01 p.m., a contractor reported to police that, while he was doing maintenance, he discovered marijuana growing in apartment 610A. Police obtained a search warrant and discovered six a search warrant and discovered six marijuana plants growing in a closet along with paraphernalia. Police arrested David Mascatello, a 23-year-old male resident of the apartment, for manufacturing marijuana and for destruction of University property.

Aug. 26—Police received a report that someone vandalized the brick sides of the campus center and Simpson Library by writing "A," "GFA" and "Alvey" in blue paint. There are no suspects or witnesses and the case is under investigation.

Aug. 27-Police received a report that a toilet from an unknown location was brought out and broke in front of Seacobeck Hall.

Aug. 28—Police received a report that someone stole an iMac computer, valued at 51,800, from Pollard Hall. There are no suspects or witnesses and the case is under investigation.

In Search Of A 'Grand' Fight Song

It's great being such a

big part of the school's

history...that's what the

fight song would be.

-Trish Lauck

The University of Mary Washington will be celebrating its Centennial throughout the 2007-2008 school year. As a part of this momentous occasion the Student Activities subcommittee is holding a competition for creation of a "University Fight Song."

The University Fight Song must be written and composed by a member of the University's community. Submissions are due by November 15, 2006. Subsequently during spirit week in February students can vote online for their favorite song out of a "Top 3'—

song out of a 'Top 3'—
selections that are made by a
fight song committee.

The winner of the
competition will receive
\$1,000 cash prize and grant

\$1,000 cash prize and grant the rights of ownership to the University. The song that wins will begin being played at school events next year. "The University Fight Song, enhances opportunities

Song, ennances opportunities during sporting events for students to unite and unify in the same song and idea," said Matt Mejia, who works in the office of admissions as well as on the graduate and professional studies campus. "Most colleges and Universities have one and now is a good time for us to start." us to start.'

us to start."

The idea of creating the competition came from Mejia, who graduated from the University in 1993. "I was a student athlete here and we used to sing songs and chant during our swim meets. It was something we did as part of our culture," Mejia said. "Once I brought the idea up people seemed to gravitate towards it." seemed to gravitate towards it.'

seemed to gravitate towards it."

Mejia is one of 11 members of The Fight Song committee. The other members from the University faculty are: Cindy Snyder (Alumni Relations), Clint Often (Athletics), and Dr. Craig Naylor (Music). The student representatives on the committee are: Jay Sinha (SGA President), Dan Clendenin (Senior Class President), Trish Lauck (Junior Class President), Trish Lauck (Junior Class President), Arish Lauck (Junior Class President), Patrick Whalen (Sophomore Class President), ranter Whatei (Sophomore Class President), the Freshman Class President who has not been elected yet, and the President of the Spirit Committee.

to select the top three songs of all the entries and then, after input from the student body, determine

Trish Lauck, President of the Class of 2008, 'the Centennial Class,' has been keeping in contact with Mejia to ensure a successful execution of this competition

"It's great being such a big part of the school's istory," Lauck said. "As a class council member we keep the schools traditions alive and also have good opportunities to start new traditions... that's what the fight score would be

the fight song would be."

Because they will be sung at events, the songs can be at maximum three minutes in length.
Submissions for the
University Fight Song may be of any genre or style of music. However, some music. However, some types of music may be more effective at energizing college students than others. "The whole idea behind it is to get come

it is to get some involvement of the crowd," Lauck said. "We want more

excitement and a sense of school pride."

Athletes are directly affected by the fight song since they are likely to hear it at each of their

'If we get a fight song, I would like it to be re we get a right song, it would nike it to be catchy and motivating, "said senior basketball player Mike Lee. "The best fight song known to any basketball player is, "Defense! (clap clap) befense! (clap clap). If it can exceed that, then it will definitely give us the lift that we need..."

Lyrics to the song must be original, otherwise the composers has to give sidence of learn indiv.

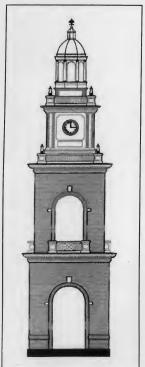
the composer has to give evidence of legal rights to the use of the text. "I like Big School fight to the use of the text. "I'like Big School fight songs but I think UMW should have something that fits the area as well as the school," senior lacrosse player Pat Wolfe said.

The songs should be submitted through a media file so they can be transferred to the website if they reach the finals.

"I bone that scholars the activators of this."

'I hope that students take advantage of this and spend time developing the songs," Mejia said. "This could last for a long time and is worth the effort of the student body to make it happen."

Bell Tower To Be Completed Jan. '07



Tower Construction Now In Full Swing

♦ BELL, page 1

construction projects scheduled for this year, construction projects scheduled for this yea but it is currently the most visible. Wit renovations and construction going of elsewhere on campus, some students feel the effects on the normally quiet campus. The groundbreaking for the Campanile wa held in June 2006 and presided over by President Emeritus William Anderson. Plans are for the structure to be complete.

Plans are for the structure to be completed

Plans are for the structure to be completed by January 2007, but many are voicing doubt that construction will be completed on time.

"I've only seen a crew out working once since I've come to school," said sophomore Jason Ward. "It's September now and they only have the cinderblock pillars up."

"The hone was to get storted right after.

only have the einderblock pillars up."
"The hope was to get started right after graduation," Rountree said. "But we got a later start and it's taking longer than they hoped."
The money donated for the Bell Tower was part of a larger donation by the Chappell family.

family.

Carmen, who passed away in 2003, had a love of architecture, which motivated the family to fund this project.

Out of the \$2 million donated, \$1.5 million is going toward the Campanile and the other \$500,000 has been allocated for endowing the Great Lives Lecture Series, which the family also has a strong interest in.

Work is expected to continue throughout the semester, and be completed by the time students return for the spring semester in January.

"I'm not worried about how the tower will look," Ward said. "The University is not going to put up an eyesore. I just think thy could have planned it better."

Major Changes In **Campus Parking**

"I received several very unhappy emails from various students about [the increase]," Snipes said. "We explained that there are no

Shipes said. "We explained that there are no more increases planned in the near future."

According to Richard Hurley, vice president for administration and finance, the gradual increase over three years was planned from the conception of the parking deck idea.

"We know we would have to get to this level." We knew we would have to get to this level

of parking pass fees," Hurley said. state of Virginia doesn't provide any support for this kind of state of Virginia doesn't p support for this kin structure, so we knew that's what it would take to pay off the debt

to Hurley,

According to Hurley, the state borrowed the money on behalf of the University, and the loan will be paid off in 20 years, mostly through parking pass fees.

The parking deck was finished almost five weeks behind its for

start.

As for the hope of free parking ever returning to Mary Washington?

"Never," Hurley said. "I'm sure by the time the parking garage is paid off, the old lots will need to be repaved; maybe even another garage will need to be built. [The University] supposed to cover all of its transportation costs with those kinds of revenue sources."

Even with more sances onen, some

Even with more spaces open, some students will still be tempted to push their

luck, not buy a pass and park elsewhere in Fredericksburg.

Doing so risks a \$200 fine for "failure to register vehicle" according to the 2006-2007 edition of the "Motor Vehicle Policy and Regulations," on top of the \$200 decal fee.

"After two days we issued approximately 1300 decals," Snipes said. "When you consider there are about 3500 students, residential and commuter, we know quite a few are avoiding [buying passes]."

According to Snipes, the price of the passes has a lot to do with the number of s t u d e n t s

by of telor a parking was the for a parking was the form the parking was the form the parking was the parking UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON attempting to

purchasing them.
"There have always been
students who haven't gotten a decay,
even when they were free," he said. "Every
year since they initiated the fee, the number of

ion-registering students has increased."

For some, the security of not having to gamble with \$200 every time they park their vehicle is worth the fee.

"I caved," Foster said, who is now a commuter student. "I wasn't going to get a parking pass when I found out they went up, but I'd rather be able to park and not have to worry about it."

For Matthews, it was the first year she

For Matthews, it was the first year she purchased a pass.
"My freshman year my brother was here," she said, "and then last year I just didn't want to pay for one. This year it was necessary because I'm in club soccer and we use our own vehicles to drive places."

Despite their views on the price of the decals, almost everyone sees the parking deck as beneficial to students.
"I guess it'll probably make some more room for student parking," said sophomore Antonia Robinson. "As long as there's enough parking for everyone, I think it's a good thing."

Snipes believes the deck will alleviate most the parking pressure the campus has

of the parking pressure the campus has experienced in the past.

"If the commuter students will use it, it will absolutely help out," he said. "It's an instant

Viewpoints

Viewpoints

Editorial "Fresh" Advice

Some words for the members of the brand-spanking new freshman class who are spreading their proverbial wings: Grow up.

Upperclassmen are sick and tired of the pranks and antics pulled by newbies within the first few weeks of classes, nay, the first week of orientation.

Painting "GFA" on the bricks, smashing a toilet in front of the dining hall and treating the fountain as your own personal pool are cute and amusing shenanigans if you're still stuck in the senior-year-of-high-school mentality.

But guess what? This is college.

Know that when you step foot onto this campus, you slip your toes into the shoe of maturity. Also know that this isn't a velcro sneaker that lights up when you jump up and down, but rather a

loafer of sorts, with tassels. Would you vandalize the walls of your office? Take the toilet out of your bathroom and smash it to pieces in front of your kitchen? Strip down and frolick in the Reflecting Pool?

No, you wouldn't.

So suck it up, leave your immaturity at home and get yourself a pair of loafers.

Word To The Wise

Five Seniors Share Lessons, Advice On How To Live With Others At College

By KIMBERLY VANN, MEREDITH BRILL, LAURA LAVEDAS, JESSICA CARICO and THERESA HICKS Guest Columnists

At the beginning of the school year, it is always helpful to keep in mind the fact that college is as much about learning to play well with others as it is about academics.

We felt that with all of our wisdom, we should share a few tips we have learned throughout our years here at Mary Wash on how to successfully deal with your roommate(s) and the stress of college.



A word to the wise: remember that not all these tips work well for everyone. Use with discretion.

1. Relate everything in life to a fictional aracter. (i.e. "This is just like the newhen Ron and Harry...") character. (i.e. "This is just like the timewhen Ron and Harry...")

2. If your roommate cannot remember the events of the previous night, tell them

you cannot believe that they forgot the streaking

Ball Circle while making rhinoceros noises.

3. No need for v e r b a l communication.

have IM.

4. Prep driving you nuts? Steal the pearls and cut the collars off their polos to prevent popping.

5. Have

stripping contest to get to know your hall stripping cet to know your hall mates.

6. Bras in the freezer...enough said.

7. If your neighbors make noise proceed to throw heavy objects at the wall...we promise they will not dent (especially in the same than the same th

ason).

8. Bring them dinner from Seacobeck.

9. Get to know their significant other

10. Watch Sponge Bob Squarepants as often as possible at the max volume your TV allows.

Proceed to make mixed drinks in

Proceed to make mixed drinks in their fish bowl.
 Vou're in college now...you know how to use four letter words properly.
 I. Lock suitemates out of the bathroom and blame your athlete's foot on them.

and blame your athlete's foot on them.

14. Do inappropriate things with your significant other when your roommate's parents come to visit.

15. Discuss your bodily functions during their favorite TV shows.

You're in college

now...you know how

to use four-letter

words properly.

16. Start a Harry Potter

seven months in advance.

17. Put shaving cream can on a burner

ream can on a burner and turn in on in the middle of the n i g h t ... y o u r roommates and the building will love you. It makes a great social mixer out on the lawn.

18. When all else fails use the insult, the pair of t

"Your mom and dad make ugly babies."

Kimberly Vann, Meredith Brill, Laura Lavedas, Jessica Carico and Theresa Hicks

Free Speech For All On Campus

This letter was written in response to "Where's Our Free Speech?" (April 27, 2006, The Bullet).

Dear Editor:

Testaments on campus.

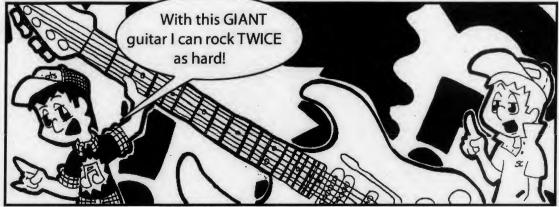
While I recognize their right to hand out literature, that right should be extended to all groups on campus without exception.

I hope the administration takes what you rote to heart, and next semester I hope to write an editorial of my own concerning the issue.

Isaac Knowles is a senior.

Giant Guitar

By Will Brewster and Austin Cobb



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Büllet

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Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bullet is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before but the store should be no inager than 300 with the submitted the properties of the store of 200 words. We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to The Bullet at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our e-mail address at bullet@umw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact The Bullet at \$40-654-1133.

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Features

ORIGAMI EARS:

One Student's Ear Tucking Talents

By ERICA MASON Staff Writer

"She's deformed! What's wrong with her ears?! Is she deaf?!" My mother squealed as the nurse snapped the umbilical cord. Supposedly

these were my first sounds of life on the outside.

"She"s just fine," the doctor reassured her by gently unfolding my floppy dog-like ears.

Not entirely uncommon with newborns, I popped out of the birth canal with deformed . Because the cartilage of a newborn is so ears. Because the cartiage of a newoom is so off, the ears often become folded and tucked during birth. In addition to having ultra malleable ears, I stubbornly got stuck in the birth canal, and had to be plucked out with forceps, which latched to my head pushing my ears down even more.

After several weeks, the cartilage is supposed to harden, and the ears retain their supposed to harden, and the ears retain their normal shape. However, my cartilage took over half a decade to firm, leaving my ears to stick out of my head at a 65 degree angle. From the moment of birth to about seven years of age, I maintained the uncanny ability to tuck my ears.

- First P6

- First Person -

This wasn't a complicated process and, though I hate to admit, involved no talent. At least several times a day, for as long as I felt like it, I took the top part of my ear and folded it over, then pushed it inside the external control of the completion of the co ear canal above the lobe. A simple thump to the fold would un-tuck and bring my ear back to its

relatively] normal place.

So what if I looked like an alien; this was the '80s and E.T. was all the rage.

My bizarre gift was praised by family

members, who thought it was the cutest thing to see a 2-year-old child walking around with odd looking stumps attached to either side of the head. My grandmother, however, did not join in on the "she"s so adorable" worship I received

of the site's so autorate worstapp' received from everyone else.

"You better stop letting her do that," she would say. "She is going to end up with permanent damage if this continues. Her ears may get stuck like that. What will people think? What will kids think when she starts going to sebool?"

My mom loves telling this story because she thinks her response to my grandmother was so

Office of the desired when I was three. I was sitting in the cart, ears tucked, begging my mom for some Chiclets. After nonchalantly reaching up to thump my ears back into place, someone squeaked.

A woman patted my head. "Oh bless her heart, the poor child," she said. "I felt so bad for her, a little girl with a deformity like that I was hoping it didn't affect her hearing, until bam! She showed the world what a magician she is."

"That's my girl," became my mother's standard reply.

standard reply.

Age four brought a more dramatic scene to Age rour prought a more dramatic scene to the Sunday school room at church. I was sitting at the 18-inch-table in a blue plastic chair, munching on some animal crackers and sipping apple juice, probably watching a high schooler tell a Bible story with paper Noahs and Arks on a felt board when I heard a cry.



Erica Mason, at the age of four, demonstrating "the tuck". The cartilage in Mason's ears took longer to harden than most children's, which gave her the ability to tuck her ears until she turned seven.

"Hallelujah! In the name of Jesus! The child is healed!" The exclanation came from a man playing trains on the rug with some other kids. "Praise the Lord!" He came over to me. "Honey, the Lord has healed you. You are a miracle

I looked at the man and asked for some more

apple juice.

By the time my mother came to pick me up,

are the Lord had blessed me with he had figured out the Lord had blessed me with the unusual gift of tucking my ears and that they were not, as he had originally thought,

My mother still had no idea how to respond to all of that, so she just said, once again, 'That's

my girl."

My mother says she never worried that all this attention would have a negative effect on

this attention would have a negative effect on me. Until I got to school.

Miss Croasman was my kindergarten teacher. I guess she was trying to improve our dexterity that fall, maybe even teach us about other cultures, but she had a thing with origami.

We did it just about every day. Swans, boxes, one-eyed cats, etc. She taught us how to do it all. The class took to it pretty smoothly, until little Zach Tolar raised his hand.

ittle Zach I olar raised his hand.
"Miss Croasman, why do Erica's ears fold like that? Does she do origami on them?"
While some kids were confused, most of them knew that Zach, the most sarcastic 5-year-old in school, was mocking my tucking

After that, we took a break from origami, After that, we took a break from origami, mostly because kids started calling me 'origami ears', and would ask me if I could fold them into pandas and flowers. My grandmother had predicted correctly three years earlier.

This never really bothered me, so my mother

did not learn of it until parent-teacher conference day. Miss Croasman asked if

everything was okay at home.

"Is this about her mismatched shoes," My mother asked.

▶ See EARS, page 5

Wikipedia: Easy to Use, Hard to Believe

By MARY WALDRON Staff Writer

This wasn't a

Last semester then senior Annalisa Grimes was in a esearch rut. Writing the thesis for her religion major on the radition of the Jewish community in America was proving to the more difficult than she anticipated. As a last resort, she isited Wikipedia.org.

"I found some decent information on there, but I'm not ure Tivkipedia is a source I should be using for a thesis," Trimes said.

Offines said.

Wikipedia.org is probably the most well known version of a wiki. A wiki, which means quick or rapid in Hawaiian, is a Web site that allows anyone to edit, delete or add information. At Wikipedia.org, users can access and change any of the over three million articles written in over 200 languages. Topics covered on the Web site include everything from

Topics covered on the Web site include everything from science to pop culture icons to contemporary political figures to how to cure the hiccups.

The editing process, which is fast and easy to do, goes something like this:

A user accesses the entry he or she wishes to edit. Each entry has its own specific Web page, and at the top of every Web page is a link titled "edit this page." The user simply clicks on the link and a text box appears, containing all of the information currently in the entry. The user then finds the place in the current text where he or she wishes to change, add or delete information, puts in the desired information will automatically display the next time the entry page is loaded.

Most entries contain footnotes, linked to other sources of information listed at the bottom of the page. These resources may be books, Web pages, online book and libraries, or other encyclopedias. However, even when information is given a source, it is not always accurate.

Jack Bales, head research librarian for the University of Mary Washington knows about this all too well. One of the

books he has co-written is listed as a source in the entry about Horatio-Alger.

"Obviously the person who wrote the article didn't read the Solviously the person who wrote the article dath tread the book. The author has Alger adopting a Chinese boy named Sam," said Bales. "This never happened, and it appears in a 'hoax biography' that we talk about in our own book." Wikipedia, which is free of advertisements and is financed through donations, was founded in 2001 by Jimmy Wales and



Larry Sanger. The two wanted to create a new kind of encyclopedia.

In May of 2005, Jimmy Wales described the intention of the

website as "an effort to create and distribute a multilingual free

website as "an effort to create and distribute a multilingual free encyclopedia of the highest possible quality to every single person on the planet in their own language." These high intentions have become the very point of controversy for the Web site. Critics have faulted Wikipedia for incidents of vandalism, inconsistency, unsubstantiated opinions, and what they consider a preference by its users for consensus rather than fact.

Despite its rapid growth and popularity since its inception, ademia seems to be hesitant about accepting Wikipedia as a "real" source of information,

"There is ource of information.

"There is definitely a question in academic circles about how you would know if the information you're finding there is accurate," said Patrick Gossetti-Murrayjohn, an assistant professor of English at the University of Mary Washington.

"People tend to take Wikipedia at face value, just like they do with any encyclopedia, but in a case like this, that might not be cruch a road idea." be such a good idea."

The question of accuracy is a fair one. In 2005 a study conducted by the British magazine Nature found that Wikipedia.org "was about as accurate on science as the Encyclopedia Britannica." Encyclopedia Britannica has since released a statement calling the study "invalid."

Even students are split on whether using Wikipedia as a resource is a qued idea. Elling Bucklay, europhystian Methods and the study "invalid."

resource is a good idea. Jillian Buckley, a graduating Math major in 2006 never used Wikipedia as a source of information for school work.

information for school work.

"People think [Wikipedia] is a legitimate source, when, in reality, it's a source written by not just an average unqualified average Joe, but many, actually thousands of average unqualified Joes." Buckley said. "Just because you want to be an expert on something doesn't mean that you

UMW student Jennifer Rollman, who graduated in 2006,

UMW student reinfiler rounain, who graded isagreed.

"Being an International Affairs major it's really important to be up to date with things that are happening. I like the fact that anyone around the world can contribute to the articles," Rollman said. "It also tends to be a lot more current then some of the more traditional text sources that people are used to using, because writing a new book takes months if not years.

ia takes minutes."

ling its founders, have called nereas updating Wikipedia tak Though some, including

See WIKIPEDIA, page 5

Thumbs Up... Thumbs Down...



To Idlewild.

To sharking.



To Scattergories.



To having classes on Labor Day off.

Send your own thumbs to bullet@umw.edu

♦ WIKIPEDIA, page 4

Wikipedia "an experiment in anarchy," the Web site does actually have a set of rules and g u i d e l i n e s which are

enforced. While there are no official editors, Wikipedia do have volunte

People monitor the site and take appropriate action when they feel it is being abused.

This consists removing that they feel is obviously incorrect, or posted with malicious intent

malicious intent.

They also have the ability to block further editing of an article if they feel any particular entry is being vandalized. Most recently, in February of this year, it was discovered that several articles on Wikipedia.org periaining to current members of Congress had been edited to remove or alter facts that could be considered the several articles that could be considered the several articles.

remove or after facts that could be considered unsavory.

"It was actually pretty funny," Frank McCarthy said, aid and advisor for Senator Sue Kelly R-NY. "Luckily no one from our staff decided this was a good idea, but it was interesting to see how riled up people got

McCarthy said the incident changed the ray he views Wikipedia.
"I still wouldn't use it as a source, but it

did show how much power it has. People were so concerned about what this Web site had to say about them that they actually took the time to edit the things hey thought could be harmful to them. That's pretty impressive, "McCarthy said. A ccording to Ernest

Ernest Ackerman, professor of computer science and author of the b o o k "Searching and Researching on the Internet and the World Wide Web," sites like Wikipedia and even Google have changed the way people do research. "Much of

(Much of the impact) has been good, but it is now, and has always been, the individual's responsibility to check resources before using them," Ackermann said. "It turns out to be too common that we

said. It turns out to be too common that we accept some information as reliable without checking that information." However, according to Bales, Wikipedia does have some advantages when it comes to

doing research.
"It can be a great jumping off point," Bales said. "It you're really struggling to find sources for a topic often times you can find sources in the bibliographies of entries." As for Grimes, she opted not to use Wikipedia for her thesis.
"I figure it's probably best to go with something I know is tried and true. So I guess for now I'll stick to some good old fashioned books," Grimes said.

Growing Up With Unique Earlobes

◆ EARS, page 4

During kindergarten and into first-grade, I ore one yellow Converse sneaker and one

turquoise.
Miss Croasman told her no, it was about my

Though my mother wanted to just let me be,

Though my mother wanted to just let me be, and not get uptight over the whole ear thing, she didn't want the kids at school to tease me. So she asked me to stop tucking my ears.

I didn't stop, but it didn't matter. My cartilage was beginning to toughen anyway. By the next year, my ear flexibility had dwindled drastically.

Finally at seven, the tuck was impossible. They just wouldn't stay.

Much to my grandmother's dismay though, I embraced a new childhood hobby that I had never needed, probably because I tucked my ears.

Picking my nose.

-66

Praise the Lord! Honey, the Lord has healed you. You are a miracle child.

—Sunday school teacher

99 -



Senior Erica Mason, then 18 months, playfully tucks her ears while watching V. Mason had the ability to do this unique talent until the age of seven.

Student Next In Line To Become Village Shaman

It's basically a dying

job, with technology and

medicine there's not

much need for healings anymore.

Zeke Kassock

By COREY BYERS Associate Editor Emeritus

University of Mary Washington sophome

University of Mary Washington sopnomore Zeke Kassock has had a job lined up all his life, though, he doesn't plan on taking it. Kassock is biologically next in line to become a shaman for the Eskimo fishing villages of Emmonak and Alukunuk in western Alaska. Both are located on the mouth of the Yukon River, and the 24-year-old limitaties and Middle Estern studies major. linguistics and Middle Eastern studies major

66.

the position if his uncle, the current shaman for about a dozen local tribes, were to pass away. "The shaman

he pleases, Kassock said.

A shaman is member of ce magic

practice magic for the purposes of healing. Kassock described the shaman for the Kassock described the shaman for the Alaskan villages as the doctor, religious leader and exorcist for the towns. Historically, a shaman's power in a tribe has slightly surpassed that of Eskimo chiefs.

Kassock said a shaman's word is considered law and while on equal terms with the abilet. Who make the sincer show two and

the chief, who makes decisions about war and diplomacy with other tribes, the position is more powerful.

more powerful.
"If he says, 'loe give me your boat,' there's
not much Joe can do."
Kassock's mother was originally from
Chicago. In the mid 1970's she met his father,
who is 100 percent native Alaskan, during a volunteering trip to Alaska; they eventually married. (Kassock said family members prefer not to talk to strangers, so they were

marned. (Kassock said family memoers preter not to talk to strangers, so they were unavailable for interviews.) As a child, Kassock lived in Alaska for a little under two years before moving to Virginia. His honorable Eskimo name is

Kilothok Keathoak: this does not serve as his legal name, however, Eskimos are given a native name at birth.

e patriarchal shaman tradition has been passed down for generations and is limited to males in every family. Kassock said his father is too close in age to his uncle, therefore making him next, and probably final shaman for the village since his uncle has no biological

Kassock hasn't been to Alaska since 1996 but he plans on returning in the next few years. The main industries of work include

tourism,logging, ivory carving and hand-made carving and hand-made textiles (musk-ox to be exact) textiles (musk-ox to be exact)
so he may have trouble
finding a job in the area with
his current course of study.
At this point in time the
sophomore does not plan on

learning the shaman traditions, which could take him upwards of 15 years to learn before putting them into

practice.

Part of the fading practice Part of the fading practice is due to cultural pressures from outside the tribal communities. Kassock says as of the 1930s the Catholic Church officially barred shaman practices. The Church saw this aspect of ac demon worship.

Eskimo culture as demon worship.
"It's basically a dying job," Kassock said.
"With technology and medicine there's not much need for healings anymore."
Kassock's heritage has contributed to his interest in linguistics and Middle Eastern Studies which combines the Arabic and Farsi

In addition, he does take the time to listen to Eskimo music and can carve figurines out of ivory; ivory carving is a family trait deriving from his heritage. He speaks to his brother Isaac, who is also a UMW student, using the Eskimo language in

a more humorous way.
"My brother and I speak gibberish Eskimo
to each other," Kassock said.

w each other," Kassock said.

In addition to being the founder of the Persian Club on campus, he spends his time fencing, swing dancing and salsa dancing "here and there". Kassock has also joined a computer club on campus.



Entertainment

Griffin Gears Up For Good Coffee

By MATT ELLIOT Staff Writer

Stern Write:

Stepping into a new, peacefully lit coffee shop on 106 Hanover Street, Most students would wonder: Where's the coffee? One expects to see a shop full of coffee tables and lounge chairs. Instead there are shelves teeming with books tied together by an ornate oriental rug in the center of the room and flower vases resting on cozy antique furniture. on cozy antique furniture.

on cozy antique furniture.

As it turns out, The Griffin is more of a bookshop than a coffee shop.

"My goal with The Griffin was to create a miniature bookshop where people could get away from the commotion of downtown [Fredericksburg] and enjoy a cup of coffee," said Eileen Boyd, owner of The Griffin.

The bookshop carries new titles from The

The bookshop carries new titles from The New York Times bestseller list at 25 percent off and used books that are in good condition. Customers can special order any titles not in stock, including those pesky books professors don't mention on the syllabus. Students receive don't mention on the syllabus. Students receive an extra 10 percent off with their University of Mary Washington IDs and everyone can enjoy free Wireless Internet at anytime.

The biggest transition Boyd had to make when she opened The Griffin over the summer was bettering her knowledge of coffee. Books

are old and familiar territory for her.
"It has been my dream to own my bookshop since I was little girl," Boyd said.

bookshop since I was little girl," Boyd said.

After recently retiring from working as a publisher for over 30 years, she still wanted books to be a part of her life.

One day as she was walking down Hanover Street, she peered through the window of the pottery shop that used to occupy the present site of The Griffin.

"I looked in the window and the bookshop just appeared," Boyd said.

And to all those doubtful coffee consumers whose loyalty lies with Hyperion, Boyd has no worries about any kind of competition.
"I used to get my own coffee from Hyperion too," she said.

she said.

too," she said.

Boyd plans to appeal to book lovers first and foremost. She feels the combination of books and top shelf coffee will attract customers.

Some UMW students felt the same way. Robyn, a sophomore, who chose to leave out her last name in fear of angry Hyperion patrons, plans on stopping by for the combination of books and coffee The Griffin provides.

Anastasia Sullivan, who was enjoying the beautiful Sunday weather outside of Hyperion with Robyn, felt differently.

"I think Hyperion is more established. You

are bound to run into somebody you know there. Kinda like Cheers."

Sullivan also felt coffee the that the coffee selection at Hyperion was better, where as Robyn felt this was their

downfall.
"I like the quieter, unassuming and eclectic

qualities of The Griffin," Robyn said.

The Griffin features live music at no cover charge on Friday and Saturday nights consisting of what Boyd termed "coffee shop music" from The store occasionally closes for private book club meetings and special

Look for the new sign on Caroline Street, future adds in the Bullet, or visit the Web site at www.thegriffinbookshopcoffeebar.com where you get directions or information about special events and performances.



The Griffin owner Eileen Boyd waits for customers.

The Streets Still Strong With Album

...the new release revels

in the glory of fame and fortune, and reels from

the effects of a healthy

diet of cocaine and

-- Aaron Richardson

By AARON RICHARDSON Staff Writer

Picking up a new album by your one of your favorite bands is a harrowing experience. In this day of file-sharing noise thievery, you have to sit and wonder whether it would be better to just pick up the album for free or to make the leap of faith and spend a ludicrous sum of money on a

piece of plastic.

Earlier this summer, I made the leap of faith

"The Hardest Way Make an Easy ving" by The Streets. The band is made up writer-producer

performer Mike Skinner, a cockney-accented MC from accented MC from
Birmingham, England.
His previous two
releases as The Streets,
"Original Pirate
Material," and "A
Grand Don't Come for Free," were fast-paced organic pieces about the drear of everyday life in an inner-city project. Skinner's beats rough-edged and original, with minimal

original, with minimal reliance on samples of other tunes. The artist's free-verse, awkward flow and conversational style pulls you in to the music.

"Hardest Way" follows in the footsteps of Skinner's earlier releases in that Skinner's delivery has not changed, but the production quality and lyrical content has. Where the quality and lyrical content has. Where the previous albums expressed the triumphs and challenges of trying to make it as an MC, the new release revels in the glory of fame and fortune, and reels from the effects of a healthy diet of cocaine and brandy. The album's opening track, "Prangin' Out" is about the destructive

effects of being a helpless cokehead.
"I come back from tour and I realize that it's

werse.

While the album opens with a world-weary

While the album opens with a world-weary song about self-inflicted pain, other tracks on the CD, most notably "When You Wasn't Famous," revel in the decadence of expensive drug habits. The Streets' tactic has always been to seemingly contradict himself at every turn, reeling in one verse reveling in the next, weighing up every pro and con. Even as he moves away from the contraction of the c

moves away from everyday life, Skinner manages to sound like a

manages to sound like a normal guy, making his music easy to connect with and love. In a similar way, the music Skinner makes has moved on without has moved on without becoming something horribly different. The beats have cleaned up, the rough edges are gone, and a much chunkier, heavy-bass mainstream hip-hop sound has emerged. Thunderous bass has replaced the horns that could be heard on "Original Pirate

Material," and synthesizers have replaced the guitars on "A Grand Don't Come For Free."
Like the lyrics, however, the beats have not lost

Like the lyrics, however, the beats have not lost their originality, or their ability to be recognized as songs by The Streets.

Part of the reason that The Streets continue to be so recognizable is Skinner's sometimes unintelligible cockney patois. Skinner uses slang some Americans, may as well be Chinese. For instance, Skinner repeatedly refers to something he calls "Marlon," which is infuriating when you're trying to determine what is being said. Marlon, as it turns out is rhyming

> See STREETS, page 7

"Sunshine" Brings Darkness To Film

Staff Writer

The brainchild of husband and wife directing team Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris, Little Miss Sunshine takes that perfectly innocent little family movie you used to see with mom and pop and gives it an obscene tattoo and a few piercings for good measure. There aren't any bullets or boobies, but leave the little siblings at home if you don't want them to ask you what the grandpa (Alan Arkin) was carrying around in that little vial. A coke-addicted grandfather character who is

Arkin) was carrying around in that little vial.

Acoke-addicted grandfather character who is also hooked on hardcore porn would have been enough to earn this movie its "R" rating, but the other members of his family make him seem almost normal.

The only character with no glaring deficiencies is Olive, the precocious seven-

r-old around whom the movie revolves. Living with Olive and her grandfather as they rehearse for Olive's next beauty pageant are her uncle Frank, played by Steve Carell, her stepfather Richard (Greg Kinnear), mother Sheryl (Toni Collette), and her brother Dwayne, played by Paul Dano.

Before the plot even takes form the movie Before the plot even takes form the movie hands the audience a platter of dysfunction in the form of Richard's floundering motivational speaking career, Frank's homosexuality and suicidal tendencies, and Dwayne's odd obsession with Frederick Nietzsche. Sheryl spends her time trying to keep the family together, even though after five minutes it's clear she's starting to crack under the next series.

The minutes it's clear she's starting to crack under the pressure.

Then comes the road trip. Due to perfectly disastrous circumstances the entire family is forced into a VW bus for a two day drive across New Mexico and California. Their ultimate destination is the Little Miss

See SUNSHINE, page 7



The cast of "Little Miss" bursts out of their VW bus.

Spetlight

By WILL COPPS

Assistant Entertainment Editor

Assistant Entertainment Editor
Their biography reads like a pretentious music
fan's checklist. Obscure foreign country?
Denmark. Vocals? High pitched but refreshingly
melodic. Overall sound? Dreamy, yet different
and sophisticated. After landing some positive
reviews on key music sites, Mew seems poised
for indie success with their new album, "And the
Glass Handed Kites."

And while the praise of the band is well deserved, Mew's problem is the timing of the sudden popularity. The band might be much better off had the press caught on when they released their far superior previous album, "Frengers." While the new album is certainly good, it came as a disappointment to many of those associated with the Mew that was then obscure in North America.

While Mew's music has many interesting moments, it proves to be too challenging for the casual listen. This is not a turn off in many albums, but it is here because the And while the praise of the band is well

many albums, but it is here because the payoff does not seem that it will be completely worth it. While I enjoyed trying to understand what Mew was going for,

most casual music fans will not go that far. While I feel I have a much better understanding of the album having listened to it many times, I'd only recommend it to the die hards.

But that is not to say the album is without highlights. "Special" is an eery, soul haunting masterpiece that will have you skipping to it more often than not. Leave

skipping to it more often than not. Leave the album playing for the next track, "The Zookeeper's Boy." "Louise Louisa" reaffirms that Mew is still able to write some of the best album closers out there. If you've never heard of Mew, I suggest checking out "Frengers" before "And the Glass Handed Kites." If you like that, then eige this album a shot give this album a shot.



The New Disgraced Look of Facebook

Editor Commentary

By WILL COPPS Assistant Entertainment Editor

Let's face it, some creepy stuff goes on on Facebook. We're all guilty. But that doesn't mean we all want every little thing we do to be visible to the guy who sits in the back row in our English class

As you're all probably aware, Facebook's new As you're all probably aware, Facebook's new feature is to track the things you do and to make them visible to all of your friends. You can't put up a picture, add a friend, get dumped by your significant other, or make a comment to someone without the whole world knowing

One of your friends commented to another friend? Oh man, let's put that on your front page so that you know your friends 500 miles away

are going to see each other in fifteen minutes!
Beth thinks that Bobby is cute? And he's now
single? Uh-oh.
You are going to need to think twice before you
RSVP for a party unless you want that creepy
members of he.

know that you're going to be there. This might be

the worst move that the fellows at Facebook have ever move that the lethows at Facebook have even made. It is at least up there with combining the college and high school Facebooks. If you don't think that one was bad, try having a little sister in high school whom a bunch of your friends think is attractive. It's not cool.

Now the little sister is in college (here, actually) and she'll be able to read all of my "relationship stories" and see who I'm talking to whenever I do. She's awesome, but you get my point. Just so everyone knows if they haven't

been on Facebook, she 'is apparently "wanting a massage really bad" as I'm

writing this, Gross.
What's next? Will
Facebook start
telling me where people are at all times? Will
know what that gid stiff on any to may in the know what that girl sitting next to me in class ate for lunch? Maybe we should all just attach video cameras to our foreheads and live stream some video onto the site all day. Now that would be

It's a good thing that the people who run Facebook listen to what the members have to say. Considering that there were dozens of protest groups within hours of the changes, I have a feeling that this change might soon be

Enjoy the stalking while you can, ladies and

Never fear! Question of the Week will return next week.

The Streets Return With More Refined Sound For New Album

♦ STREETS, page 6

slang for brandy, which suddenly makes sense because you realize Skinner isn't referring to drinking somebody named Marlon from a bottle. Despite the confusion, the patois is part of what is attractive about The Streets. Skinner's broken flow backed with resoundingly original music creates an aura unique to

Ultimately, The Streets is a great band.

Musical babble and discussions of patois Musical babble and discussions of patois saide, their sound is what makes them great. Even if you don't look deeper than the beats, do yourself a favor, make a leap of faith and send Mike Skinner a well-deserved fifteen dollars.

"Hardest Way to Make a Grand" available at record retailers.



Mike Skinner of The Streets strikes a

Caring "Shine"s Through Family's Disfunction in Film

4 SUNSHINE, page 6

unshine beauty pageant in Redondo Beach but unshine beauty pageant in Redondo Beach but lad the most road movies, most of the plot unfolds along the way. And like most road movies set in the southwest, the scenery is fantastic. It might not necessarily be the best looking backdrop ever but it will make you feel one of two things: either you'll be jealous of people who live there, or you'll be glad you're not one of them.

Of course there's plenty of friction between nearly everyone, but through that shines the movie's redeeming quality. Dayton and Faris never let the audience forget that this is in fact a family that does care about each other and can work towards a common goal despite a glut of differences and neighborly contempt.

If you're like me though, you'll ignore the philosophical implications and just enjoy this movie for the relentless humor. Written by Michael Arndt, Little Miss Sunshine delivers

movie for the relentless humor. Written by Michael Arnet, Little Miss Sunshine delivers laughs via cleverly placed slapstick genuinely intelligent wit. This is a damned

comedy that also happens to be a brilliant ntary on family, if you can ignore the

"Little Miss Sunshine" is currently playing at Regal Fredericksburg 15. Rated R

Bullet Hits: A Weekly Top Five Pick We, The Bullet, This Week: Top Five Most Mind Blowing Music Videos

By Zach Bowman Entertainment Editor

Will Copps Assistant Entertainment Editor

First off, before you get ticked off because we haven't included your all time favorite 98 Degrees video, let us clarify. This isn't a list of the most heart-felt, the most original or even the best videos of all time, it's a list of the most mind blowing. Don't believe us? Hop on youtube.com and check them for yourself. Still don't believe us? Shoot us an email at unwbullet@gmail.com and we'll

1: "Knights of Cydonia" by Muse

If a director were to take every awesome concept in the history of humanity, throw them all in a blender and pour the resulting delicious smoothie of incredibility out for the world, that smoothie would be this video. It would also taste like an early '70s movie. There's Kung-Fu, post-apocalyptic laser gun fights, a hawk, a unicom, a robot, a Chinese flag color guard, a skeleton and an obligatory evil villain. Where George Lucas couldn't manage to fit this much amazing in six full length movies, Muse manages to fairly coherently shove it all into six minutes worth of music video.

2. "Thriller" by Michael Jackson

Cliché? You bet your ass, but let's look at what makes this thing so amazing. Zombies. That's right, zombies. Not just any old, reanimated corpses either. This video is packed with a horde of line dancing monstrosities led by the poster child of reanimation himself. I challenge anyone to watch this video and not have a burning in their immortal soul to learn those moves.

3. "Estranged" by Guns N' Roses

Oh no! Axl fell of the aircraft carrier! Wait, isn't he still on his way to the mental home? Thank god those dolphins are there to catch him before he drowns. And look at that dolph... wait! A top hat rises from the water... a bitchin guitar solo! Slash has risen! Axl is safe to write the next Guns N' Roses album over the next fifteen years, and the world is infinitely more awesome.

4."Around the World" by Daft Punk

iondry is a genius, and has directed some of the greatest music videos of all time. "Star Guitar" by The Chemical Brothers probably takes the crown, but there are some good White Stripes videos, too. Those videos, however, do not have skeleton people and while stripes vites, too. Intose viteos, nowever, to not neve skettenin people and spacemen dancing in unison around a small stage to Daft Punk repeating "around the world," And no, the awesomeness doesn't stop there. Each group of people in the video is synched to an instrument and dances perfectly along with the song. Take a couple listens to wrap your heads around the choreography, and then take your daydreams for the next week to try to figure out how spacemen are so good at dancing in such heavy spacesuits.

5."Intergalactic" by Beastie Boys

In classic Beastie Boys style, this masterpiece bursts from the mold with an amazing Godzilla-like parody. We've got a giant robot doing the robot people. This video doesn't stop there either, as an epic battle for the future of white-boy rap ensues with a trident wielding, octopusheaded sea monster. Cardboard model Tokyo City will never be the same, and neither will the world of rockin' videos.

need a webmaster like crazy.

~Stephanie Tait, Editor In Chief

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Business Services Goes Virtual

By ERICA JACKSON News Editor

Laundry hell has been a Mary Washington tradition for as long as there have been washing machines in the dorms:

Trudge down to the basement with your basket of smelly clothes, praying you'll find an available machine—a prayer that is rarely

Later, once you miraculously find an open washer and dryer, you return, only to find your clean laundry strewn across the floor after impatient dorm-mates have refused to wait their

Now, however, with a new high-tech wrinkle from the UMW Office of Business Services, Laundry hell could be a thing of the past.

The office has instituted a new

instituted a new service called e-Suds, a program which allows students to monitor their laundry from their own computer with a virtual view of the laundry room their residence hall.

their residence hall, showing which washers and dryers are available and which are in use. If the machine is in use, the remaining cycle time is displayed on the student's computer screen. Students may even choose to receive an email or text message when their laundry is finished.

E-Suds also allows students to use their Eagleone cards to pay for their laundry, which now costs \$1.25 per load, a 25 cent hike over last year which Business Services officials attributed to inflation, as the cost of laundry has remained unchanged for five years. remained unchanged for five years

So far reaction to the new program has been

mixed.

Senior Elizabeth Phelps, who lived on campus for three years before moving off campus this year, says she wishes the school had had the service in the past.

"E-Suds would have made my life significantly easier and I hope that it makes the lives of people living in dorms a lot easier," Phelps said. "The last two years I've happened to live on the top floors of the buildings and it's just a hassle to walk up and down, and go down to find that there are no free machines."

Other students were not as supportive.

Other students were not as supportive.
"I don't think it's too much effort to go down d look," said freshman Ryan Smith, who lives in Russell Hall

in Russell Hall.
Freshman Alvey Hall resident Jillian Brodie
expressed the same sentiment.
"I think it's kind of ridiculous," she said.
[The laundry room] is right across the hall."
According to the Assistant Vice President of

Business Services Erma Baker, UMW is the first public college or university in Virginia to implement e-Sude

current e-Suds accounts such as Rutgers, Temple, and American University," Baker said in an e-mail interview. "In all cases, the students have enjoyed benefits offered by e-Suds, and see it as a great time management too!." Baker said her office has made other changes

Baker said her office has made other changes as well in the way students can now conduct their on-campus business. Most significantly, business services has moved the EagleOne Card Center online, allowing students to view account balances and make deposits in real time, among other features. The old EagleOne office, located in the Wash Room, will keep its normal business hours.

These changes were put into place over the summer after approval last spring by the Board of Visitors.

"The plan provided \$150,000 for purel-\$150,000 for the purchase of new software and equipment that would interface with existing software and enable greater functionality for system users," Baker said.

Stephanie Machias, manager of the Eagleone Card Center, explained the new features.
"Before the online

"Before the online system, there was no way to check your balance without inquiring at the office," Machias said. "Web deposits could take 24 hours to be applied to an account, which could be a big problem. Now deposits happen in real time and students can check their balance and transaction history, and they can also stop the use of their card if it's lost or stolen, so their money is protected."

Card readers across campus have been eliminated, with only one stripe serving all uses. Machias urged students to stop by the EagleOne office to have funds transferred from their vending stripe to their account.

While the price of cards for residential students remains steady at \$20, the replacement cost for non-residential students has doubled,

cost for non-residential students has doubled,

cost for non-residential students has doubled, bringing it to \$20 as well.

Card center administrator Jessica Smith explained the reason for the rising price.

"The cost of cards increased because of the new features added to the card," Smith said. "It is more important than ever to protect your

Baker looks forward to continuing aprovements in the business services

Baker looks forward to continuing improvements in the business services department.

"There are several ideas for future expansion of the EagleOne card program, but this semester will be focused on communicating the new features and monitoring system use," Baker said.

"Once the current system has Once the current system demonstrated success, we will speak ft with students about ideas and opportunitie expansion." ak furthe

Diversity Still Down Among New Students

← MINORITY, page 1

world," Frawley said.

worto, rrawley said.
TRIO programs are federal programs based on
Title IV that support students from disadvantaged
backgrounds, including low-income students
first generation college students, and students
with disabilities.
Student Government Association Students
Student Government Association Programs

Student Government Association President Jay Sinha is excited about Frawley's plans to bring more foreign-born students to the University. Sinha, a senior, explained that he often feels pressure as the only minority student or one of few minority students in his classes to argue for the "minority side" of a race, gender or secioeconomic class issue. conomic class issue.

"Not having a campus that fully engages diversity makes it hard for us to invite student leaders from other countries who could really shed some perspective on the American way life," Sinha said.

There are a number of ways students can develop a more diverse campus, Sinha added.
"I feel diversity has truly been achieved when

majority students see no issue in joining clubs like the Asian Students Association because that demonstrates a true compassion for your fellow students," he said.

Sinha is also working with the student government to create the Diversity and Unity

Coordinating Committee, which would work to promote diversity on the campus.

Candace Kent, the president of the Black Student Association, would also like to see the campus discuss issues of diversity on a deeper level. Although students bring up the issue of minority students at the beginning of each school year, Kent wishes the discussions lasted all year long and encompassed a bigger population of the campus

campus.
"I like to talk about diversity issues beca "I like to talk about diversity issues because it's my day-to-day experience," she said, adding that a lot could be accomplished through a wider participation in programs like Students Educating and Empowering for Diversity, better known as S.E.E.D., which held lunchtime discussions last year on diversity issues.

Sinha is confident that as long as UMW continues to improve its academic reputation continues to improve its academic reputation.

Sinha is confident that as long as UMW continues to improve its academic reputation, both minority and non-minority students will choose to attend. He also reiterated the importance of the entire campus working together.

"Students who feel the need to insulate themselves with only minority students need to realize that diversity takes two realms: diversity within the minority community and diversity within the entire community." Sinha said. "Students who hang out with only other minority students, in my opinion, aren't fully engaging the idea of diversity."

Willard Hall Gets Summer Facelift

We need new

student residences that

are multi-functional;

with computer labs,

workout rooms, wireless

coffee houses,

classrooms and faculty

apartments.

-President Frawley

By ELLEN FERRANTE Staff Writer

Each summer as University of Mary Washington students desert their residence halls for a few months, facilities services takes over in major renovation projects which last throughout the

66

throughout the summer. This summer Willard Hall received special attention, with improvements to ceilings, furniture and other amenities. The total cost of the projected amounted to \$140,000. C e i l i n g

C e i l i n g problems arose when "the plaster had aged to a point that it was in danger of detaching, and in some locations had already done so," explained John Wiltenmuth II, associate president

facilities services

Most of the ceilings on the third floor were replaced as well as some on the lower floors with gypsum "drywall" rather

minor re were some minor height ents, but nothing significant," said

adjustments, but nothing significant," said Wiltenmuth.

Sophomore Willard Hall resident Megan Kelly said, "I think [Willard Hall] is the best dorn ever," and particularly appreciates the air conditioning. Kelly admitted that her "room is a little rough," specifically pointing to a gummy bear stuck on the ceiling and another one on the window that were there when she arrived.

Sophomore Katie Jones, Kelly's roommate, was generally satisfied with her room. However, she expressed concern regarding Internet issues.

"To me, (the Internet)"

"To me, [the Internet] would take much more of a priority over new couches," Jones

President William Frawley has established his own ideas about improving campus housing after touring the campus and looking at dorm rooms. In his State of the University address, Frawley said,

"We need new student residences that are multifunctional, with computer labs, workout rooms, wireless coffee houses, classrooms and faculty apartments."

faculty apartments."

The major setback of any extensive renovation is providing housing for students during the building process. "We definitely need something...it's
difficult to do a major
renovation when we
have no place to move
anybody," noted
Christine Porter, Director of residence life and housing. As a result, most maintenance projects are completed over the summer when the University has the least students

accommodate.

Money is another factor in the race against the clock to complete work before the fall semester. Costs rise when trying to accomplish any major project or renovation within a restricted time frame leaving the university somewhat "cost prohibited," Porter explained.

Consequently, Willard Hall and Mercer Hall are the only dorms that have even undergone renovation, according to Wiltenmuth. Building records for Willard are incomplete, but facilities services is aware that Building records for Willard are incomplete, but facilities services is aware that it held the original dining facilities before the construction of Seacobeck Hall. In 1979, Willard Hall was retrofitted with the current hall and suite baths, and in the 1980s air conditioning was added. Also in the 1980s, Mercer Hall was converted from an infirmary to a residence hall.

Currently residence 115.

to a residence hall.

Currently residence life is working on purchasing new couches, microwaves and TV sets. Previous projects include choosing the colors and styles of lounge furniture, bed frames, mattresses, desks, microwaves and

microwaves and televisions.

Overall, residence life has positive feedback about students taking care of their dorms, and according to Porter, problems generally include students not cleaning the rooms before cleaning the rooms before they check out for the summer.

summer.

"Our students as a whole do not leave buildings in bad shape...
We've been very We've been fortunate,' she said.



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Viewpoints



Sexclamations

Mary Washington Sex. Ed. 101

If you pursue

information as

diligently as you

pursue tail, you will

have a degree by the

end of the year.

By Elz England, wanton sex goddess

Gone are the days when you vigilantly listened for parents' footsteps on the stairs to begin the panicked process of resuming the "we-w-just-watching-a-movie" act.

Three cheers for college. All that is required to sexile the roommate is a sock on the door or acted weed on the white here.

a code word on the white board.

However, there are a couple stumbling ocks-especially for the eager but However, there are a couple stumbling blocks-especially for the eager but inexperienced. For example, now that it is safe to remove clothing, guys might want to practice the unhooking-the-bra move.

Unfortunately for everyone, Mary Wash does not offer a Sex 101. If your experience

uses not onter a Sex 101. If your experience was anything like mine, high school sex ed was a long-winded "if you have sex, you'll get diseases or pregnant and then die 'lecture. I never got to do the cool banana-and-condom thing the movies depict.

Cheer un there is exill bore. This area.

Cheer up, there is still hope. This campus has plenty of resources that teach you about what you really want to learn

If you pursue information as diligently as ou pursue tail, you will have a degree by the ation as diligently as

If you pusse tail, you will have a degree by the end of the year.

But, take note: not everyone is having sex. I know they said that in cheesy high school classes, but it is true. As a senior, I know plenty they are the in a "losers rus" club of virgins and they aren't in a "losers r us" club and they do not wear a scarlet "V."

So, if you are not ready to jump on the band agon of this sex-crazed college life, you're not

Still, if you are having sex, thinking about having sex, or even just interested in learning a b o u t contraceptives this

campus can help you out.

A word of advice from Mrs. Ross, the on-Ross, the on-campus nurse practitioner, is to remember to use condoms during oral sex. It is not a rumor that you can get STDs from oral, you are oral, you are especially vulnerable to HPV and Herpes-both of which do not have a cure.
Contraception

There are free condoms in the "Self-Care" room of the Health Center. Walk in the Health Center and keep walking down that hallway, the room is on your left. No one is ever in this room, so you will not

No one is ever in runs room, so you will not be seized by the "what if I know someone who sees me" fear that makes you nervous at CVS. Since sex does not always occur between the hours of nine and five, the condoms are placed on a cart outside the health center at night.

excuse for being condomless, just take a romantic walk to the health center at 3 a.m.

Birth Control:
Girls, if you are

interested interested in exploring the idea of birth control you must attend an hour long information This class is not

Just for sexually active girls; it teaches you how to put on a condom, the pros and cons to different methods of

contraception etc. It is extremely informative and also open to interested males.

After the class if you decide you would like Arter the class if you decide you would like to go on birth control you must make an appointment for an exam and pay \$45 up front. This money covers your full exam, pap smear, and three months of birth control.

Morning After Pill: Go to the health center where you may purchase it for \$15. You can avoid the terrifying need to get this still by using

avoid the terrifying need to get this pill by using birth control and condoms

pregnancy Tests: Also for sale in the Health Center for five bucks.

STD Testing: The exam administered by the Women's Clinic only checks for chlamydia and gonorrhea, so if you wish to be tested for something else you must go to the Department of Health Activations. of Health downt

Mapquest 608 Jackson St, call 540-899-4142 or go online at vdh.state.va.us/lhd/rappahan/services.asp. They offer free, confidential and walk-in

appointments on certain days.

If you are sexually active, beginning a new

If you are sexually active, beginning a new relationship, or worried about your sexual health, get tested!

Information: In addition to the above resources, for in-depth studies I always recommend picking up "Guide to Getting It On" by Paul Joannides, it's all you will ever need to know about sex in 782 pages for less than \$20.

The Bullet Needs You!

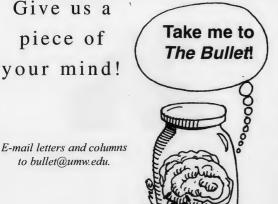
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- *Copy Editor(s)

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to bullet@umw.edu.



Classifieds

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Introduction of the Pepper Jack Stack Burger - September 11th

Movie Night in the Back Room - September 14th Come Watch "The Incredibles" at 8:00 pm

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If you're interested in applying

Phonathon is a program where students contact alumni and parents regarding their gift to the Fund for Mary Washington. The money raised through Phonathon supports scholarships and various campus programs. Phonathon Associates have the opportunity to speak with people who look forward to a yearly call from a Mary Washington student.



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Technicality Costs UMW Championship

Obscure Rule Leaves Softball Team Fuming Last Spring



senior Abbey Wineland winds up against Salisbury in an April 1 doubleheader. The Eagles split the twinbill but were not as fortunate when they faced the Seagulls again in the CAC championship, falling 2-0 after a controversial call.

By LAUREN BOSTON Sports Editor

Most students at the University of Mary Washington will never forget the notorious Superbowl "wardrobe malfunction" that gave viewers an entirely new view of Janet Jackson. Few, however, heard about UMW's very own wardrobe malfunction that

left the softball team fuming late last spring. It also cost the Eagles their first Capital Athletic Conference championship since 1996 and the possibility of their first NCAA tournament appearance since 1992. It all started in the third inning of UMW's championship game against Salisbury University when sophomore Amy Edmondson ripped a two-out line drive single that scored two runners to put the Eagles up 2-0 against their experience.

Edmondson's helmet came off as she raced to first, but she quickly reclaimed it. The umpire gave her a warning: head gear has to stay on at all times. Edmondson nodded, perched on first, waiting for the next batter. What she got instead was Salisbury head coach Margie Knight coming out of the opponents' dugout to challenge the play. Knight explained why in a recent interview. "The umpire verbally warned the UMW player not to take her helmet off again," Knight said. "According to rule 9 d. there is no warning and it is an immediate dead ball with runners returning to the base they occupied at the time of the infraction or if the third out the inning is over at the time of the infraction."

According to UMW team member junior Casey Pherson, Knight argued that Edmondson had deliberately removed her helmet, a direct violation of NCAA softball rules and regulations.

After Knight's challenge, the umpire reversed himself and ruled that Edmondson was out. That meant the two runs were removed from the score board and the inning was over.

UMW head coach Dee Conway, who had never been witness to such a call in her entire coaching career, was less than pleased. She argued with the umpire, but got nowhere.

"There was an interpretation that [Edmondson] did it on purpose."

the umpire, but got nownere.

"There was an interpretation that [Edmondson] did it on purpose,"
Conway said in a recent interview. "Everybody followed the rules, it was

just an incorrect interpretation."
Rule 9 d. comes from the 2006 NCAA softball rules and regulations handbook and states that "no base runner may intentionally remove her helmet or other personal equipment to deliberately interfere with a batted or thrown ball."

batted or thrown ball."

According to both Conway and Knight, neither coach has seen this

According to both Conway and Knight, neither coach has seen this situation occur before in their respective coaching careers.

Had the umpire interpreted the incident as an accident, the Eagles would have put the first runs of the game on the board with Edmondson on base as a potential third run.

Pherson acknowledged the validity of Knight's appeal, despite her forestriers are the establishment.

frustration over the situation.

"In fairness, the rulebook does say that the removal of a helmet is grounds for being called out," she said.

According to Conway, the ruling also gave the Seagulls a confidence

boost.
"We lost momentum at that point in time and Salisbury gained momentum," Conway said.

The Seagulls went on to score two runs and take the championship, the dejected Eagles unable to put any runs on the board.

However, Conway was quick to explain that a victory against Salisbury would not have guaranteed a tournament berth.

"That game would have helped but we don't know how much it would have helped," she said. "We can only assume.

Prior to the title game the Eagles had looked promising from the start has the same that the section of first leaseness of the same that the section of first leaseness of the same that the section of first leaseness of the same than the section of first leaseness.

Prior to the title game the Eagles had looked promising from the start last season, going on an 11 game winning streak and boasting a final record of 27-15, their second best showing in school history. With a strong finish to the regular season, the Eagles had entered the first day of the CAC tournament with a lot of confidence. According to Pherson, UMW came prepared to take the title. "We showed up the first day completely in the CAC championship mode," she said. "Our first opponent was York College of Pennsylvania and right off the bat we were all over them." Puns aside, the Eagles narrowly escaped the Spartans with a 1-0 victory in extra innings.

Due to inclement weather after UMW's first win, the tournament became single elimination as the Eagles headed into their second day of play, the goal of a CAC championship in sight.

UMW watched from the sidelines early Sunday as the Seagulls crushed Catholic University 10-0.

Catholic University 10-0.

Despite an impressive showing on Salisbury's part, UMW was not timidated, even playing their own warm-up CD despite competing on foreign

"We had our 'Cotton Eyed Joe' song played over the sound system,"
Pherson said. "Call us cocky, but we were there to win."
Light-hearted line dancing would soon lead to a heated disagreement that left

The Eagles had the bats swinging early as they advanced several runners as far as third base, but their offense came to a halt after the base

running infraction.

UMW was held to six hits and could not counter Salisbury at the plate.
Then-senior Abbey Wineland had a solid performance from the mound, allowing only six hits and striking out seven.

Salisbury's win marked their 10th straight CAC title as they went on the NCAA tournament before falling to Moravian College in the

66

We had our 'Cotton Eyed Joe'song played over the sound system. Call us cocky, but we were there to

Casey Pherson

Eagle Fan "Mini-Feed": **Summer Athletic**



* Recent graduate Kevin Foeman signed with San Francisco Giants to play rookie baseball

*UMW will host 2007 Division III women's National tennis championship

*Women's rowing team ranked No. 1 in Mid-Atlantic region

*Recent graduate Caitlin O'Leary named Inside Lacrosse National Defender of the Year

*Recent graduate Abbey Wineland wins 41st career softball game, the most in school history

*Women's tennis captures CAC championship

* Senior Patricia Dilger and recent graduate Brian Craddock named Academic All-Americans for swimming

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Contact Lauren Boston lbost9zf@umw.edu

Sports



Eastern Mennonite goalie sophomore Brian Garretson fails to block a soaring shot from UMW senior Tommy Park. The Eagles defeated Eastern 2-0 behind shutting out Shenandoah 3-0 on Sunday.

UMW Men Sweep Soccer Classic

By MARIE PURKERT Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington men's soccer team got bruised and beaten Sunday against Shenandoah University. The payoff Shenandoah played the final 24 minutes of the game one man short. Sophomore Aaron McGuiness gave the Eagles the upperhand after receiving a yellow card in the 70th minute for "cleating" senior Tommy Park. Less than two minutes later McGuiness collided with senior Bryan Beers, a move that resulted

Bryan Beers, a move that resulted in a red card, dismissing ss from the remainder of

McGuiness from the remainder of the game. Senior co-captain Glenn Gray explained the carding policy. "The NCAA rules are that once a player gets his fifth yellowcard of the season he has to sit out the next game," Gray said. "A straight redcard means out for the rest of that game and the next."

With McGuiness out of the game, the Eagles took advantage of their extra man on the field as of their extra man on the field as freshman Matt Lawrey scored unassisted in the 80th minute to seal the win, 3-0. However, UMW dominated the game long before McGuiness

was thrown out

was thrown out.

Freshman Michael Johnson
was the first to score Sunday in the 21st
minute off an assist from sophomore David
Rodriguez. Six minutes later, freshman
Ryan Synder found the net off an assist
from Park, the Eagles now up 2-0.

With all three goals on Sunday coming
from freshman, head coach Roy Gordon is
pleased with his young talent thus far.

"Four freshmen started who are good

"Four freshmen started who are good players and athletes, which means that we have experience coming off the bench which increases our depth as a team dramatically," he said.

Gray agreed.
"We have a lot of young guys on the team, but

they stepped up and played well," he said.

Overall, the Eagles out shot Shenandoah 21-3, and were given five corner kicks in opposition to the Hornet's one.

Senior co-captain Elliott Jones and junior Greg Savage combined in goal for the shutout, with Savage racking up two saves in his 56 minutes of relief.

Jones left the game after 36 minutes due to an injury sustained in a collision.

UMW came into Sunday's game after

We will be

disappointed if we do

not win the CAC

championship.

-Tommy Park

However, Park was quick to put his

team's wins into perspective.
"This weekend's opponents were not of
the top class so we will have to stay
focused and work hard to beat the toughe
teams like York and Salisbury," he said.

teams like York and Salisbury," he said.

No one, however, can argue that the
Eagles have gotten to a far more promising
start this year after beginning last season
with a tie and three consecutive losses.
Gordon is pleased with the turn around.
"The results speak for themselves," he
said. "Last year we lost to
Fastern Meponite 1.0 and

Eastern Mennonite 1-0, amelost in a scrimmage 1-0 against Shenandoah. We've turned those results completely around and are more in control. We're more in control. We're playing faster as a team, and

moving the ball quicker."

Park is already looking

Park is already looking ahead.
"This weekend showed the potential for us with some experienced players mixed in with the talented freshmen," he said. "We

freshmen," he said. "We will be disappointed if we do not win the CAC championship." Gordon agreed.
"It's hard not to think about the CAC championship," he said.
"For us it's been more realistic than it has been in years."

season to tell where (other) teams might be."

UMW will look for their third straight

line is that we're going to be a lot of fun to watch this year," Park said.

However, Gordon pointed out that it is still early in the season to make predictions.

"Last year we weren't far away from the other teams, but we just lost enough," Gordon said. "It's still too early in the defeating Eastern Mennonite 2-0 the day before in their season opener. With two wins under their belt, Gordon is confident about the season ahead. is confident about the season ahead.
"The way we're playing right now is at a higher level than we have been playing the last few years," Gordon said.
Gray agreed.
"It is still early in the season but our team chemistry is getting better everyday," he said. "This weekend was a great start, too. We have a lot of confidence going into this week's game and soon into our CAC matches." UMW will look for their third straight win when they travel to Gettysburg College Saturday night.

Park urged fans to support the team.

"We definitely want more people to come out to the games, because the bottom-

College Football Makes Return

With the commencement of school and a return to the dorms comes another autumn tradition: college cothall. Fight sames the do...
another automated tradition: college football. Fight songs, inted faces, and painted faces, tailgating and marching bands all signal the return of arguably the finest tradition in all of



you may be a little new to the hype and hoopla of Division I college sports (yes Mary Washington, some schools do have a football team), here are a few of my predictions for the year's major conference winners (because seriously, the Sun Belt Conference? Come on

ATLANTIC COAST: Virginia Tech. In the "No, really, we're serious this time" department; Virginia Tech seems to be the obvious choice. With a cake schedule and a resounding 38-0 opening weekend win over Northeastern, these guys will finally get the monkey off their back.

So yes, for real this time, Virginia Tech

BIG TWELVE: Oklahoma. Yes, they play three ranked teams. Yes, one of those teams is defending national champion Texas. However, Texas no longer has Vince Young. Oklahoma senior tailback Adrian Peterson is coming off two straight 14-touchdown seasons, and OU's No. 10 ranking isn't for show. These guys are out to do some damage in the league, and they'll definitely show that there is a new conference champion in town.

BIG EAST: West Virginia. There's not much to say here. WVU is the only reason the Big East is relevant anymore. They play in the easiest conference in all of Division I football, and face off against only one team that can even be considered for a Top 25 ranking. If these guys don't go undereated, the season is pretty much a waste.

BIG TEN: Ohio State. It kills me to say this. I hate the Buckeyes. I really, really hate any sports team that comes from Ohio. Bengals, Browns, Cavaliers, Indians, Reds...and Ohio State. But they don't just give away the No. I national ranking, and I'd like to think that the drafting of star linebacker AJ Hawk wouldn't cripple a

team. But don't expect them to skay No. 1 amyear.

INDEPENDENTS: Notre Dame. This one is obvious, because when the other teams in your "conference" are Navy, Temple and Army, you really don't even need to show up. West Point personifies God-awful football, Navy will be 6-5 at best, and Temple? Well, nevermind. Notre Dame is my pick for national champion this year, as the only other team to go undefeated. They'll win the conference, they'll go undefeated, Brady Quinn will win the Heisman, and the school with the best fight song in all of football will finally win the national title. Play like a champion today, indeed.

PACIFIC TEN: Toss-up between UCLA and USC. However, this is the first year since Dubya took office that competition in the conference can even be contemplated. Name a starting player for USC, and they were probably drafted last year. But the Trojans will definitely give UCLA a run for their money, and with the nearly identical schedules in terms of difficulty, this might actually go down to a tie-breaker. One thing's for certain, this will finally be the year since Clinton took office that USC loses to Notre Dame.

Dame.
SOUTHEASTERN: South Carolina, but it

came down to picking favorites. It could seriously be everyone. Every team except for Vanderbilt and Mississippi State is competitive, and it really has to come down to who your favorite team in the conference is. With a Gamecock connection in the family, and a special place in my heart for coach Steve Spurrier, I have to pick South Carolina.

HEISMAN TROPHY WINNER: Brady Quinn. When Notre Dame finishes the season with a No. 1 ranking, an undefeated record, and a national title bid, you'll be thanking me later. The glory days have finally returned to South Bend, and I don't have to be embarrassed to love these must surprose.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS: Notre Dame. It'll be a close game against West Virginia, and will probably come down to overtime, a coin toss, and a few furious matches of rock-paper-scissors, but Notre Dame will be crowned king.

Some may disagree with my predictions, but just know that I've picked the last three World Series champions, the last two Wimbledon winners, and the last four NASCAR champions. And that track record's not too shabby.

Upcoming Games

Sept. 9 - Field hockey vs. York College of Pennsylvania, 1 p.m. Women's soccer vs. Virginia Wesleyan College, 3:30 p.m.

Sept. 10 - Women's soccer vs. CNU, 3:30 p.m.

Sept. 12 - Field Hockey vs. St. Mary's College of MD, 4 p.m.



Athlete of the Week

Senior Tommy Park scored two goals in the men's soccer season opener Saturday to capture a 2-0 victory over Eastern Mennonite.